nerdio

Nerdio Manager for Enterprise vs. AVD through portal

Feature comparison: updated February 2026

	Nerdio	AVD through portal
Image management	Nerdio gives IT teams a simple, all-in-one tool to build, update, and roll out desktop images on a schedule—no scripting required.	Microsoft offers image building through Azure, but automated scheduling is still in development.
App Attach	IT teams can quickly add or update applications for users without rebuilding the entire desktop using a simple upload process.	Adding apps this way requires several manual steps and some technical know-how but works reliably once it's set up.
Data storage	All data lives entirely within your own company's cloud environment. Nerdio never has access to it.	All data lives entirely within your own company's cloud environment. Microsoft never has access to it.
Monitoring	Nerdio automatically sets up monitoring tools and sends your team customizable alerts when something needs attention.	Microsoft provides monitoring tools, but your IT team needs to configure them manually before they start working.
Cost management	Nerdio shows a clear breakdown of what you're spending and where and automatically reduces costs when desktops aren't in use.	Microsoft Azure provides standard cost tracking and savings tools that your IT team can use alongside AVD.
Auto-Scale	Nerdio automatically turns desktops on when people need them and off when they don't—saving on average ~55% on costs without any manual work.	Scheduled start/stop and Dynamic Auto-Scale (requires managed host pools). Storage optimization is handled separately.
Disaster recovery	Nerdio spreads your desktops across multiple locations, so users stay connected even if one data center goes down.	Microsoft Azure has its own disaster recovery tools that protect your desktops and data across locations.
Software updates	Nerdio releases updates every 6–8 weeks with new features and fixes, all included in your subscription at no extra cost.	Microsoft updates the AVD service on its own schedule. There is no separate software for your team to maintain.
Ease of management	Nerdio is designed to make desktop management fast and simple. Most tasks take just a few clicks in one place.	Managing desktops through the Microsoft portal works, but it typically takes more steps to accomplish the same tasks.
Host pool replication	IT staff can duplicate an entire desktop environment in just a few clicks. This is great for quickly setting up new teams or locations.	There's no built-in copy feature, so IT staff need to manually export and re-deploy settings. This is a process that requires technical expertise.
Storage setup	Nerdio automatically creates and configures the storage needed for user profiles and apps—no manual steps required.	IT teams need to manually create storage and connect it to AVD, though the process is straightforward once you know the steps.
User access & permissions (RBAC)	Nerdio comes with ready-made permission levels, so IT teams can easily control who can see or change what, all without touching the Azure portal.	Microsoft Azure has a solid permissions system, and assigning standard roles is simple, though building highly custom roles takes more effort.
Activity logs	Nerdio keeps a clear, easy-to-read record of everything that happens in the system, so IT teams can quickly find and fix issues.	Microsoft provides detailed logs across several tools. This is powerful, but your team needs to know where to look for specific information.
Automated tasks	Nerdio includes a ready-to-use library of automated tasks, like installing software or fixing common issues, that IT teams can run in a few clicks.	Microsoft allows IT teams to run automated tasks, but there's no built-in library—your team has to write and manage all scripts themselves.
Custom views	IT staff can create and save personalized dashboards that always show the information most relevant to their teams.	The Microsoft portal lets you adjust what you see, but certain portal changes can reset each time you navigate away.
Backups	Nerdio automatically backs up desktops and user data, so IT teams don't have to think about it.	Microsoft Azure handles backups natively and reliably. Your IT team just needs to set it up once through the Azure portal.
End user portal	Employees get a simple self-service portal where they can restart their own desktop or restore it to a previous state, reducing IT support tickets.	Employees can log into a web portal or app to launch their desktops, but they can't perform self-service actions like restarts or restores.

For more information, visit **getnerdio.com/nerdio-manager/enterprise/**

PO030226000